



The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax.

WELCOME!

We are glad you joined us today and
pray God's blessings on you
as we worship together.

Service for the Lord's Day

November 29, 2015

**All who are able are asked to stand.*

Our Vision:

***A Worshipping-Sharing-Welcoming
Community***

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Rod Macdonald

God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude: No Small Wonder

*The Entry of the Scriptures

*Call to Worship: *Lord Jesus Christ, we await your coming,*

we wait filled with hope, knowing your light will shine in the darkness.

We wait anticipating your peace, believing that one day it will fill our world. We wait embracing your love, May we reach out to share it with our neighbours. We wait with joy, stirring us in expectation of your birth.

Lord we wait, come soon and fill us with your life.

* Hymn: O Lord my God

Advent Liturgy

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The Smiths



Prayer of Confession: *It is never easy for us to confess our sins, Advent God. There are the hurts we have caused to our families and friends, which we would like to forget. There are those we believe are impossible to love, and so we don't try. There are people who live on the edge of our society, and we ignore their cries for help. Forgive us, Advent God. When we have lost our way, show us yours. Lead us in hope toward your kingdom. Teach us your truth, so we might be able to keep your Word, revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.* (Silence is kept)

Assurance of Pardon: *God does not remember our sins, but does remember the promises which have been made to us. God does not shame us, but lifts us to new life. Lead us in your hope, O God, and teach us your love. You are our God, we wait for you to come to us. Amen.*

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: ***Jeremiah 33:14-16***

One: *The Word of the Lord.*

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 25: 1-10** *To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. My God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.*

I rest in God (36 vs. 1)

*Hymn: Hope is a Star

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Conversation with the children:

Sound the alarm!

From the letters: **1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

Gospel: **Luke 21:25-36**

One: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

All: **Praise to you, O Christ**

*Hymn: Come thou long-expected Jesus

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Sermon:

What does 'HOPE' look like?

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: What Sweeter Music by John Rutter

*Doxology: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow" **830**

Announcements:

"Lord, listen to your children praying" (sung unannounced) **449**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer ("debts & debtors")

We Go Out to Serve God

*Hymn: Lord of all Hopefulness **748**

Benediction:

*May the God of Hope

Postlude: Improvisation on O Come Emmanuel
(please remain seated)



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Worship is now ended let our service begin!

Regular activities THIS WEEK - (Nov. 29 – Dec 06)

Today Sunday School: 11:15 am.

Thursday **Fall Bible Study: AN INFORMED FAITH.** During the election we asked many questions issuing from a Christian perspective. The election is over but the questions remain. Come and explore them together. This Thursday, starting at 6 pm. **Right Relations – where to begin?**

Choir practice 7:30 pm

Friday David's Place - morning

Sunday **The Second Sunday of Advent**

9 am Early Service with Communion

10 am Prayer Group

11 am Traditional service

With Christmas coming soon if you would like to **fund flowers** so we can have a nice display for the season, please let Vanora Haldane or Phyllis Morrison know. If you would like to give in memory of someone let us know that as well. Thank you for considering this.

FREE Health and Wellness Programs offered by the Halifax Peninsula Community Health Team To register or for more information on these and other programs, please call 902-487-4560, visit us online at www.communityhealthteams.ca, or drop by our location at Young Tower (6080 Young Street) Holiday Eating Survival Guide, Tuesday, December 1st from 10-11:30am, Young Tower; How Healthy is Your Plate? Eating for Health Tuesday, Dec 15th from 9:30.

An Advent& Christmas Music Concert will be presented by **Nova Voce** Men's Choir, the Halifax Boys Honour Choir and the Stadacona Brass Quintet on Friday, December 4 at 7 pm at St. Michael's Catholic Church, Spryfield (Doors open at 6:15 pm) Tickets: \$15 (\$12 for seniors & students) are available from choir members or BOOKMARK, 5686 Spring Garden Road. 423-0419.

Receipts for in-kind donations should be submitted to either Mac Fyfe or Davida Mackay by January 15, 2016. Receipts should be dated between January 1 and December 31, 2015.

Come and decorate! Dec. 5, 10 am.... Wreaths and garland. Tree will go up after Dec. 13th communion. We've lost some 'regulars' so come and help! (Maybe let Phyllis know).

Would **elders** present this morning please meet with the minister immediately following the service.

Readers needed for ADVENT: For Dec. 6, 13, 20 and Christmas Eve, we needed people to read the Advent Liturgy and light the Advent Candle. It would be nice to have some different people take part who do not help with the readings all year. If you would like to participate or know of families or students returning for the holidays, please let me know as soon as possible. Thanks. Phyllis Morrison. See me in church or call 429-4353 or email pmorrison@eastlink.ca

Jeremiah 33:14-16 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a

righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Luke 21:25-36 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

PASTORAL CARE

Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact one of the following:

Kenn Stright office: 423-2660

home: 477-2870

Valerie Macdonald 455-1893

Clerk of Session: Murray Alary



MISSION CAPSULES: December 1 is World AIDS Day.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada, through Presbyterian World Service & Development, continues to support HIV and AIDS programs that fight stigma and discrimination, teach and equip people to prevent the spread and the transmission between mother and child, and provide home based care and medications to those living with the disease. PWS&D also works with partners at *Titukule Ana* - a program in Malawi that provides counseling and support for orphans and vulnerable children. Janet Machemba's parents passed away when she was young. With support from the program, Janet was able to participate in a tailoring course and is well on her way to creating a brighter future. "I am very happy that I have been given this opportunity," she shares.

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP *During the Advent season, pray that our Christian community is able to reach out and tell others the real meaning of this time leading up to the birth of our Saviour.*

STEWARDSHIP *Without a rich heart wealth is an ugly beggar.*
Ralph Waldo Emerson

We welcome all who are worshipping here today! If you are here for the first time, please sign the Guest Book at the main entrance. Our Greeter this morning is Don Knox. Our refreshment hosts are Barb and Gary Smith. Our readers are Barb and Gary Smith.

We welcome younger children to our services! St. David's is a breastfeeding friendly facility.

The 3 R's at Saint David's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. **This is a 'scent free' zone for the comfort of all.**